(a) whether Doordarshan DD-1 or DD-2 Metro have any scheme for the participation of private producers in the field of the production of the serials;

(b) if so the nature of the scheme and by when it is likely to be introduced; and

(c) whether any advertisement has been given in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati has informed that there is a Sponsorship Scheme for particiapation of outside producers for production of serials.

(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that the Scheme is already in operation and under this Scheme outside producers can apply for allotment of air time for sponsored programmes with reference to Doordarshan's advertisements.

(c) proposals as per the requirements of Doordarshan are invited from time to time from outside producers through advertisements in Doordarshan, radio and newspapers.

Prasar Bahrati has informed that advertisement was issued in all leaving newspapers on 19-6-2002 for DD-II and 07-08-2002 for DD-1 and also through Doordarshan and Radio.

Proposal for Punjabi News Bullation on DD

†3202. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to start Punjabi News Bulletin on the lines of Urdu News on Doordarshan with coverage of Punjab State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan Kendra Jalandar is already telecasting news in Punjabi, covering the State of Punjab terrestrially and the whole country in satellite mode.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.